



Technical Assistance Document #003-06 Part C, Birth to 3 Connections Program September 2006

Timely Services

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act established the Part C early intervention program for infant and toddlers which is referred to as the Birth to 3 Connections program in South Dakota. With the reauthorization of IDEA in 2004 came a requirement for States to submit a State Performance Plan which would chart the direction of program for the next several years. There are 14 federally required indicators. In the fall of 2005 the State Performance Plan (SPP) was developed in South Dakota. For more information on the SPP see the following site:

<http://doe.sd.gov/oess/Birthto3/docs/MastSPP.pdf> .

Indicator one of the SPP addresses the provision of services to be conducted in a timely manner. The South Dakota Birth to 3 Connections defines timely services as services beginning within 30 calendar days from the date the parent signs the Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP).

On July 1, 2006, all providers with the Birth to 3 Connections program signed the updated Part C Provider Agreement which states: "Provider agrees to begin services beginning with 30 calendar days from the date the parent signs the IFSP. The Birth to 3 Connections program strongly encourages that services start within the week/month/quarter depending on the frequency of services designated by the IFSP team." The SPP requires 100% compliance on this indicator. In the near future there will be an addition to the Administrative Rules of South Dakota for Part C defining the 30 day requirement. Please keep this in mind so your area will not be out of compliance. The Birth to 3 Connections will continue to monitor this data according to the State Performance Plan. If you have questions please feel free to contact the Birth to 3 Connections at 605-773-3678 or your local service coordinator.

Remember, provider Request for Payments (RFPs) needs to be received in the Birth to 3 Connections office by the 15th of each month (to make sure that the Birth to 3 Connections program has received the RFPs by the 15th please allow sufficient mailing time). If RFPs are received after the 15th these RFPs will be carried over to the following month. **One exception during the year is regarding the month of June due to the end of the fiscal year. RFPs need to be received by June 5th.** Payments or check from the State typically arrives by the first of the next month.

If you have questions feel free to contact the Birth to 3 Connection program at 605-773-3678.